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Customer Number

24024

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of Williams et al.)	Examiner: James M. Hewitt
)	
Serial No.: 10/605,348)	Art Unit: 3679
)	
Filed: September 24, 2003)	Confirmation No.: 2347
)	
)	Attorney Docket: 22188/06726

For: FERRULE HAVING CONVEX INTERIOR WALL PORTION (AMENDED)

Mail Stop AMENDMENT
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

SUPPLEMENTAL INTERVIEW SUMMARY

Dear Sir:

In further response to the Office Communications mailed June 5, 2007, and the interview summary mailed November 8, 2007, Applicants hereby comment as follows:

It is believed that there is no fee associated with the filing and consideration of this response, however, **should the Commissioner decide that any fee or fee deficiency is due, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any and all fees incurred as a result of entering this response to deposit account number 03-0172.**

Please amend the above-identified application as follows:

INTERVIEW SUMMARY

In an Office communication mailed June 5, 2007, Applicants' last substantive amendment that was filed on February 28, 2007 was held to be non-responsive for directing the claims to a non-elected invention, namely Figs. 27 and 28. Applicants further responded on August 3, 2007, and thereafter several telephone interviews were conducted. The Examiner provided interview summaries mailed on November 8 and November 15, 2007 which were complete as to the general discussions that occurred during telephone interviews that occurred on October 26 and 31, 2007. Those discussions reiterated Applicants' and the Examiner's positions already of record, and, therefore, did not require supplementation. The Examiner also provided an interview summary on November 8, 2007 that was directed to a telephone interview on November 5, 2007 between Examiner Hewitt and Attorney Lewis and this supplemental filing is provided to complete the record of that interview. During all the interviews with Examiner Hewitt, all the pending claims were discussed as a group.

On or about October 29, 2007 Attorney Lewis conducted a telephone interview with SPE Studola to discuss the issue that Applicants' last amendment was being held non-responsive for claims directed to a non-elected invention. Applicants' attorney appreciates the time and courtesies extended during that interview, as well as the interviews with Examiner Hewitt. The interview with Mr. Studola was a general discussion about the requirement to maintain claims that are within the scope of an elected species, and how the PTO interprets that requirement.. Mr. Studola was very helpful in clarifying the need to identify the basis for a restriction requirement, and recommended further discussions between Applicants' attorney and Examiner Hewitt to identify how the pending claims did actually read on the elected species.

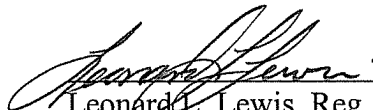
During a subsequent telephone interview with Examiner Hewitt on November 5, 2007, and as noted in the Examiner's Interview Summary of November 8, 2007, Applicants' attorney pointed out that the specification as filed taught that Fig. 28 was applicable to the various embodiments of the disclosure, including the elected embodiment of Figs. 23A-F. The Examiner indicated he would further review the matter, and in a subsequent voice mail to Attorney Lewis, indicated that the claims as presented in Applicants' last response of February 28, 2007, was

readable on the elected embodiment and that the holding of non-responsive amendment would be withdrawn. Applicants attorney wishes to thank the Examiner for his time and thoughtful consideration of this matter.

It is respectfully submitted that the application is in condition for allowance and favorable further action is requested.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: December 7, 2007



Leonard L. Lewis, Reg. No. 31,176
216/622-8683